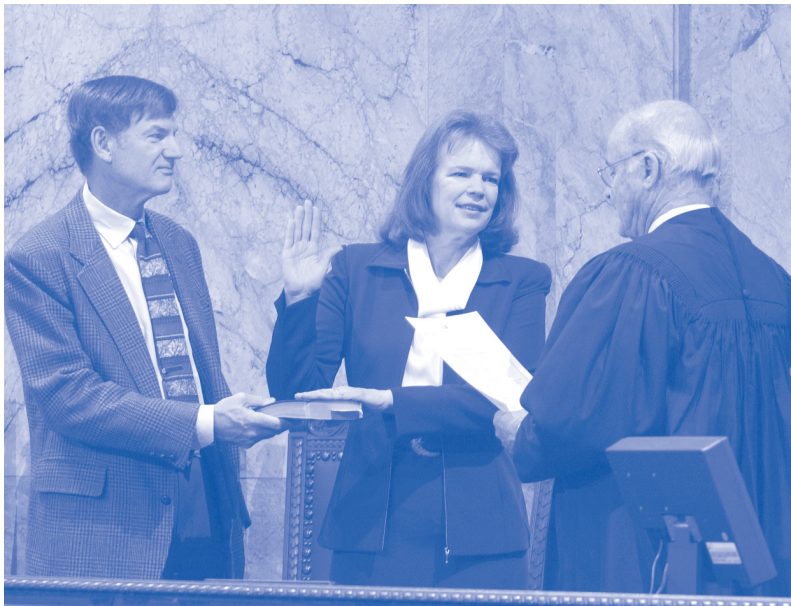


The

WARNICK REPORT

Rep. Judy Warnick ★ 13th District



Legislative Update and Survey

MEET REP. JUDY WARNICK!

Hello friends and neighbors,

I'm Judy Warnick, your new state representative from the 13th Legislative District. I was elected in November and sworn into office Dec. 6 in a special ceremony by Washington Supreme Court Chief Justice Gerry Alexander. My husband, Roy, held the Bible on which I placed my hand and promised to "faithfully and impartially discharge

the duties of the office of a Washington state representative" to the best of my ability. Since then, it has been my honor to represent you in the Washington State Legislature.

I'm a life-long resident of Washington. My husband and I own and operate a small business in Moses Lake, which is also where we live.

With a few weeks remaining of the 105-day session that began Jan. 8, I wanted to provide a short update of the issues that may affect our local area. As your state representative, I want to be accessible and make sure you have a voice in state government. That is why I'm also including a short survey within this newsletter.

Please call, write or e-mail my office anytime. My legislative assistant, Kyle Lynch, will be glad to assist you.

Also, be sure to make use of my website for news and information. You can sign up for legislative updates from my e-newsletter. The web address is: www.houserepublicans.wa.gov/Warnick. You may also send an e-mail to me from my website.

Thank you for the honor of allowing me to serve you!

Rep. Judy Warnick
13th District

Olympia address

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Olympia, WA 98504-0600
Phone: (360) 786-7932

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**Toll-free
legislative hotline:**
1-800-562-6000

Website:

www.houserepublicans.wa.gov/Warnick
(Go to my website to e-mail me.)

Rep. Judy Warnick * 13th District



Members of the House of Representatives congratulate Rep. Judy Warnick for passage of her legislation, House Bill 1987, exempting landowners from liability from unintentional injuries related to copper theft.

Getting tough as metal against thieves

Copper wire thieves have struck several times at Rex Calloway's farm in Quincy, stealing portable power cords used to operate irrigation systems. It cost more than \$36,000 to replace the cords and the crime happened so frequently, it jeopardized his ability to keep insurance.

Copper wire theft has become very profitable with the increasing price of metal. Plus, the thieves often spend as little as a day or two in jail.

I introduced two bills to address the growing problem of metal theft. House Bill 1986 would increase prison sentences to one year and one day when the damages to the victim greatly exceed the value of the property stolen.

Some thieves have been injured or electrocuted when stealing wire and metal. State law allows them or their families to sue the victims of the crime. To rectify this problem, I introduced a liability exemption measure. House Bill 1987 provides that a public or private landowner would not be liable for unintentional injuries to any person when the injury is caused by the theft of copper, aluminum, steel or other metal materials from the landowner's property.

The liability exemption measure passed the House unanimously. Although House Bill 1986 did not make it out of committee, I successfully attached it to another metal theft measure, House Bill 1251, which passed the House unanimously. Both measures are now moving through the Senate.

Tax relief for students, farmers, and property owners

Given the state has a budget surplus of \$2 billion, instead of spending that money on new, expanded government programs, we should give some of that money back to taxpayers.

To help our struggling college students, I sponsored legislation (House Bill 1531) that would have exempted books and required instructional materials from the state's sales and use tax. The measure would have saved the average student about \$75 a year.



To help property owners, I co-sponsored House Bill 1170, a measure that sought to reinstate the 1 percent property tax levy limit that was struck down by a King County judge.

I also tried to provide \$40 million in tax relief for our farmers through bills that sought to reduce the B&O tax rate for custom farming and provide a sales and use tax exemption for farm machinery and equipment.



Unfortunately, the majority party had other plans for the surplus that did not include tax relief. Taxpayers don't need bigger government. They need tax relief. I will continue working on this issue.

House approves CWU tuition waiver authority

I'm pleased to report the House has approved a measure to increase Central Washington University's tuition waiver authority from 8 percent to 10 percent. House Bill 1497 would help establish equity for CWU, which finds itself competing with other state colleges and universities that have a greater ability to grant tuition waivers. These waivers are meant to help students overcome challenges which would make it difficult to attend a school of higher education. In CWU's case, the university focuses on needy students. A larger tuition waiver would provide more flexibility for CWU to help these students.

Rep. Judy Warnick * 13th District

13th District Constituent Survey

Your views matter to me. Please take a moment to fill out this survey. When you are finished, clip it from the newsletter, fold and sent it to me. Also, be sure to add a 39¢ stamp.

BUDGET

Lawmakers are writing a 2007-09 state budget. This year, the state has a revenue surplus of nearly \$2 billion. Please mark which answer best represents your views.

The Legislature should:

Create a constitutional spending limit.

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

Spend all of the surplus on more government programs (education, health care, etc.)

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

Put some or all of the surplus into a secure savings account (rainy day fund) that could be spent only with a two-thirds majority vote in the House and Senate

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

Pass a constitutional amendment requiring a supermajority vote to raise taxes

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

Use part of the surplus to provide tax relief

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

If you marked yes, who should receive tax relief?

- ☐ Small businesses
- ☐ Large businesses
- ☐ Property and home owners
- ☐ Farmers
- ☐ College students
- ☐ All taxpayers

PRIORITIES

Which of the following issues are important to you?

- ☐ Agriculture
- ☐ Budget and taxes
- ☐ Crime and public safety
- ☐ Elections
- ☐ Energy
- ☐ Environment
- ☐ Family issues
- ☐ Health care
- ☐ Higher education
- ☐ Housing
- ☐ Human services
- ☐ Jobs and the economy
- ☐ K-12 education
- ☐ Property rights
- ☐ Senior citizen issues
- ☐ Small business
- ☐ Transportation
- ☐ Veterans and military
- ☐ Water
- ☐ Other (Please specify) _____

TAXES

Are you in favor of creating a state income tax?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

The state constitution requires that school bonds and levies receive approval from at least 60 percent of the voters to win passage. Do you favor lowering the levy requirement to 50 percent approval?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

Should the 1 percent property tax levy limit be reinstated?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

Continued on next page



Please
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Rep. Judy Warnick
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Constituent Survey *Continued*

EDUCATION

A major discussion is under way in Olympia about the future of the WASL (Washington Assessment of Student Learning). Students must pass the 10th grade WASL test if they are to get their diplomas. Which answer below best represents your views?

- ☐ Lawmakers should postpone the requirement that students pass statewide math and science tests to graduate from high school.
- ☐ The WASL should be given to students, but graduation should not depend upon passage of the test.
- ☐ WASL requirements should remain intact with no changes.
- ☐ The WASL should be eliminated.

Should local school districts have the option to administer alternative testing in lieu of the WASL?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

Should abstinence-based sex education in our schools be replaced with a detailed "medically accurate" sex education program that begins at fourth grade and would require parents to provide a written notice to the school if they want to opt out their children from this program?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

If you would like to receive my e-newsletter, please write your e-mail address in the space below.

E-mail: _____

13th District
Legislative
Update
& Survey

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